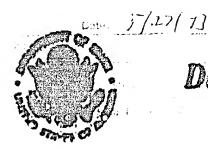
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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BEIJING 34290

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS NIACT TO GEN SCONCROFT AND... DEPUTY SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER ABOARD USAF 24126

E.O. 12356: DECL: DADR

TAGS: PREL, CH

SUBJECT: PROPOSED TOAST FOR GEN SCONCROFT BANQUET HOSTED

BY CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN QICHEN,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 1. SECRET/NODIS ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. THERE FOLLOWS, PER REQUEST, EMBASSY'S PROPOSED TEXT OF THE TOAST TO BE DELIVERED BY GENERAL SCOHCROFT AT THE HELCOMING BANQUET TO BE HOSTED BY FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN QICHEN, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, AT DIADYUTAI STATE GUEST HOUSE IN BEIJING.
- 3. MR FOREIGN MINISTER:

I WISH AT THE OUTSET TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE, AND THAT OF MY COLLEAGUES, BOTH FOR THE BANQUET YOU ARE HOSTING THIS EVENING AND FOR MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO FACILITATE OUR DIALOGUE TODAY AND TOMORROW.

PRESIDENT BUSH HAS SENT ME TO BEIJING WITH A MOST SECRET

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IMPORTANT TASK: TO VISCUSS WITH YOU AMD YOUR COLLEAGUES

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IN THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HOW WE MIGHT OVERCOME
DIFFICULTIES IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, AND HOW WE
MIGHT RESTORE THAT RELATIONSHIP TO THE CONSTRUCTIVE,
MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ONE WE ENJOYED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

LET US BE CANDID: HE DO NOT HINIMIZE OUR CURRENT DIFFERENCES IN OUTLOOK ON CERTAIN SUBJECTS, NOR DO HE BELIEVE THAT ALL DIFFERENCES AND IMPEDIMENTS CAN BE SHEPT AHAY IN A FLASH. AS SERIOUS PEOPLE REPRESENTING GREAT AND SERIOUS NATIONS WITH AMESOME RESPONSIBILITIES TO OUR OWN CITIZENS AND THE WORLD, HE NEED TO SPEAK PLAINLY. THE MISSION ENTRUSTED TO ME BY THE PRESIDENT REQUIRES SUCH PLAIN SPEAKING, AND SO DOES THE CURRENT STATE OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. IN THAT SPIRIT, I HILL REFRAIN FROM EMPLOYING THE FLOWERY PHRASES OFTEN USED ON SUCH OCCASIONS AND SHARE WITH YOU MY SENSE OF THE TASK BEFORE US.

THE AMERICAN SIDE TAKES IT AS A GIVEN THAT OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP IS VITALLY IMPORTANT. HE CATEGORICALLY REJECT THE PROPOSITION VOICED IN SOME QUARTERS THAT A HEALTHY, POSITIVE U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP IS LESS IMPORTANT, OR EVEN IRRELEVANT, IN A PERIOD OF SHEEPING CHANGE IN WHAT USED TO BE CALLED THE COMMUNIST HORLD. PRESIDENT BUSH CARES DEEPLY ABOUT OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA; HE AND HIS ADMINISTRATION UNDERSTAND WELL THE IMPORTANCE OF CLOSE TIES.

EARLIER THIS YEAR, PRESIDENT BUSH HINSELF STATED
TO PRESIDENT YANG SHANGKUN: "CHINA AND HER PEOPLE WILL
ALHAYS HOLD A VERY SPECIAL PLACE IN BARBARA'S HEART AND
IN MINE. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE CHINESE PEOPLE
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SECRET.

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HAVE JOINED IN A HISTORIC RENDEZVOUS THAT HAS BECOME A PERMANENT FRIENDSHIP GROUNDED IN COMMON INTERESTS AND PRODUCTIVE COOPERATION." PRESIDENT BUSH HAS NOT ALTERED THAT VIEW IN THE LEAST. ON THIS POINT I CAN GIVE YOU AN ABSOLUTE ASSURANCE.

SO HE NEED TO DISCUSS FRANKLY WHAT HAS OCCURRED SINCE THE DEMONSTRATIONS IN TIANANMEN SQUARE THIS PAST MAY AND JUNE. MORE PARTICULARLY, HE NEED TO SEEK SOLUTIONS -- AKD PREFERABLY QUICK SOLUTIONS -- TO THE

SECRET
DIFFICULTIES WHICH NOW CONFRONT US. WE NEED, IN A WORD,
TO RESTORE FORWARD MOMENTUM.

FOR OUR PAST, WE DO NOT SEE THE CURRENT IMPEDIMENTS OF PERCEPTION AND POLICIES TO BE INSURMOUNTABLE. QUITE THE CONTRARY. WE HAVE BEEN THROUGH OTHER DIFFICULT PERIODS SINCE OUR NEW RELATIONSHIP BEGAN IN THE EARLY 1970S, AND WE OVERCAME THOSE DIFFICULTIES THROUGH DILIGENCE, FLEXIBILITY AND A COMMON WILLINGNESS TO RECOGNIZE THE PARTICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF THE OTHER SIDE.

LET US BEAR IN MIND THAT EACH SIDE REPRESENTS A SOVEREIGN NATION WITH ITS OWN DEEPLY-HELD VALUES AND IDEOLOGY; EACH THEREFORE INVESTS A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF NATIONAL "FACE" IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE OTHER; AND EACH FORMULATES A FOREIGN POLICY RESTING UPON A COMPLEX SET OF DOMESTIC REALITIES. FOR THAT REASON, WE COMMEND THE WISDOM OF YOUR SENIOR LEADERS WHO RECENTLY TOLD FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON AND FORMER SECRETARY KISSINGER THAT WE NEED TO MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER.

PRESIDENT BUSH HISHES TO MOVE FORWARD -- TOGETHER.

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS NIACT TO GEN SCOWCROFT AND DEPUTY SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER ABOARD USAF 24126

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HE HAS ALREADY TAKEN A NUMBER OF COURAGEOUS POLITICAL STEPS DOMESTICALLY TO SIGNAL THAT DESIRE. AT SOME RISK, HE SIGNIFIED HIS READINESS TO CONTINUE OUR COOPERATION ON THE PEACE PEARL PROJECT, HE HORKED TO DEFEAT THE CONGRESSIONAL SANCTIONS BILL, AND HE HANDLED THE PELOSI BILL IN A WAY CALCULATED TO MAXIMIZE HIS EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY AND FUTURE FLEXIBILITY.

HE NEED NOH TO BUILD ON THOSE STEPS AND IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP. THAT, FRANKLY SPEAKING, IS THE ONLY MEANS WE HAVE TO PREVENT FURTHER ACTIONS WHICH MAY TIE THE PRESIDENT'S HANDS. AND WE HAVE ONLY FIVE OR SIX HEEKS TO DO SO BEFORE THE U.S. CONGRESS RECONVENES.

HE KNOW WHAT ITEMS ARE ON OUR AGENDA FOR THESE MEETINGS. LET US DEVISE AN APPROACH WHICH REFLECTS GUR JUDGHENT -- A JUDGHENT AFFIRHED IN PRACTICE OVER ALMOST SECRET SECRET

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THO DECADES OF AN EVER-EXPANDING RELATIONSHIP -- THAT A HEALTHY U.S. - CHINA RELATIONSHIP IS IN OUR CONSON INTEREST SECRET AND IN THE INTEREST OF ALL MANKIND.

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT OUR TALKS CAN HAVE TWO POSSIBLE OUTCOMES. IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL, WE CAN PUT THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF OUR STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND MILITARY RELATIONSHIP BACK INTO PLACE. IF WE FAIL IN THE MISSION ENTRUSTED US OVER THESE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, WE MAY WELL BE SPEAKING OF THE U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP IN TERMS OF PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE EXCHANGES AND BENEFITS REMINISCENT OF THE MID-1970S RATHER THAN IN TERMS OF THE GROWING STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP OF THE MID-1980S, A PARTNERSHIP WITH VAST POTENTIAL FOR OUR TWO NATIONS AND PEOPLES.

I ASK YOU NOW TO JOIN ME IN A TOAST TO THE HEALTH OF MINISTER QIAN, TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR TALKS AHEAD, AND TO THE RESUMPTION OF A STRONG AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.

GANBEI.

END TEXT OF PROPOSED TOAST. PASCOE

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